AE912-1

SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 1980

MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of March, 1980)

Seismic exploration for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters registered an increase during the last thirty days, according to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. The Society's most recent monthly survey, issued today, reported the total number of seismic land crews and marine vessels active during March was 477, up eight crews from February. The survey also indicates the current level of activity has nearly doubled in the last four years.

The March total (477) represents an increase of 2% over last month, a 31% increase over March, 1979, a 43% increase over March, 1978, a 69% increase over March, 1977, a 99% increase over March, 1976, and a gain of 60% over the same month in 1975.

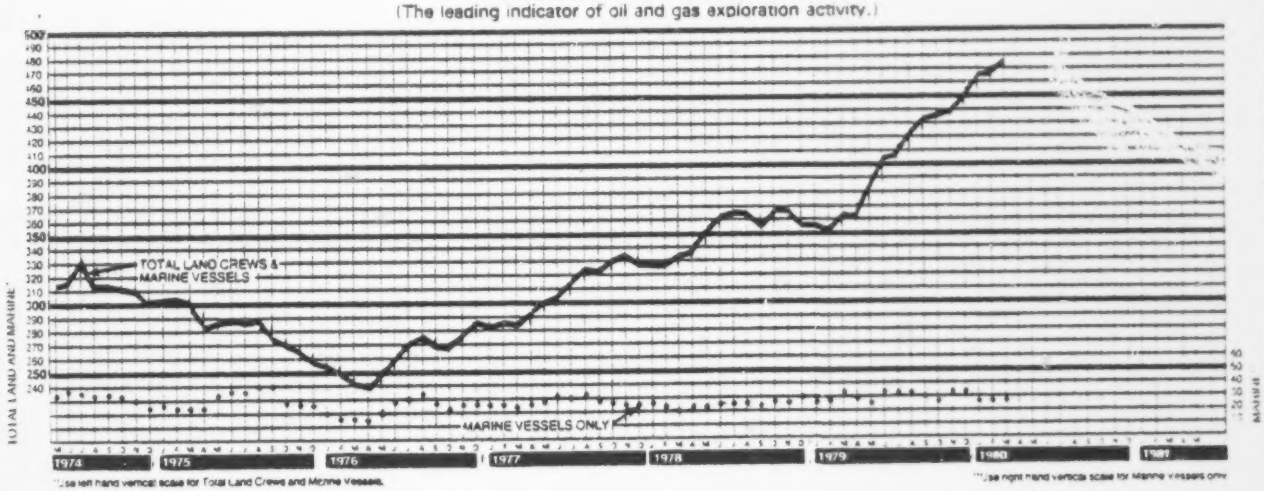
During March, four contractors were operating four of their 409 land crews and none of their twenty-three marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Mar. '79	Mar. '78	Mar. '77	Mar. '76	Mar. '75
	477	469	364	334	282	240	299

	LAND CREWS							MARINE VESSELS						
	This Month	Last Month	Mar. '79	Mar. '78	Mar. '77	Mar. '76	Mar. '75	This Month	Last Month	Mar. '79	Mar. '78	Mar. '77	Mar. '76	Mar. '75
70 Contr's:	409	401	295	278	226	184	235	23	24	24	15	17	14	18
10 Oil Co's:	39	39	37	36	34	38	41	6	5	7	5	5	4	5
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	0	0	1	0	--	--	--
Totals:	448	440	332	314	260	222	276	29	29	32	20	22	18	23

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

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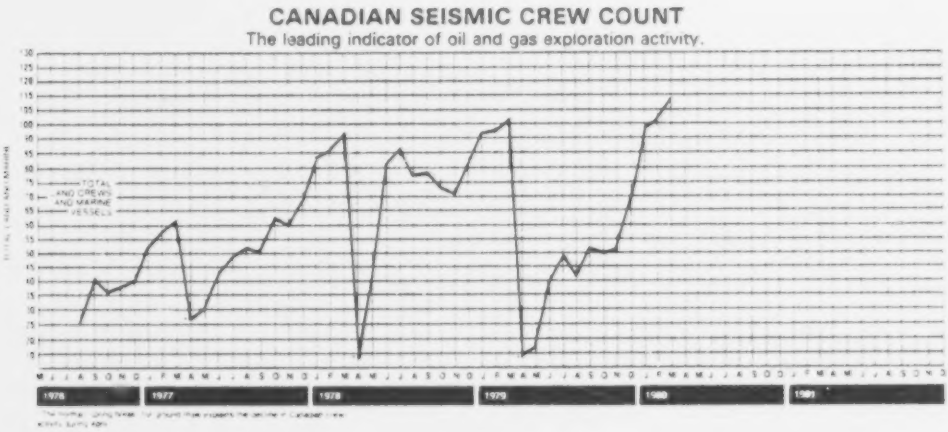
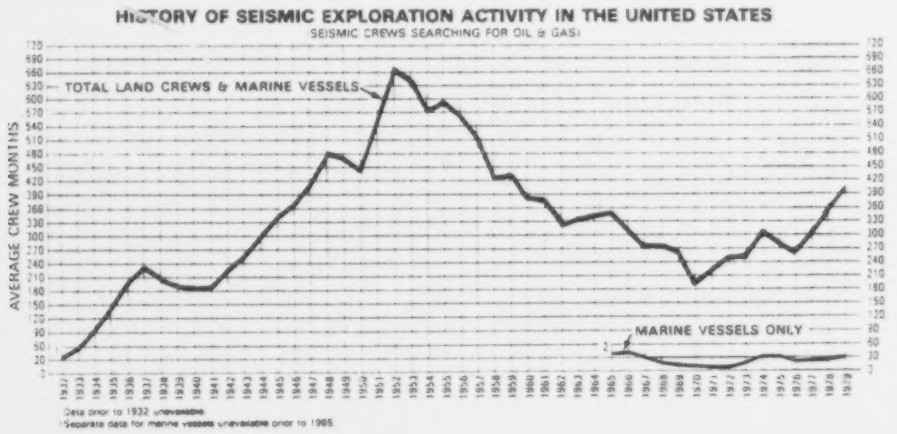
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

March, 1980 (February figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
28 Contractors:	111 (98)	0 (0)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	114 (101)	0 (0)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION ACTIVITY IN THE UNITED STATES
SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS!
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
AVERAGE CREW MONTHS
Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965

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